



# **Electronic Control Weapons (ECW)**

Board of Supervisors Public Safety Committee Meeting

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Chief of Police

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Entity	2015	2016	2017	2018
Fair Oaks District Station	11	4	10	2
Franconia District Station	8	8	8	6
Mason District Station	20	8	18	8
McLean District Station	17	3	5	4
Mount Vernon District Station	15	11	13	18
Operations Support Bureau	1	2	3	2
Organized Crime & Intelligence Bureau	11	14	10	18
Reston District Station	15	3	7	4
School Resource Officer	0	0	0	0
Sully District Station	4	1	3	7
West Springfield District Station	11	10	5	5
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>74</b>

# Electronic Control Weapon Policy & Training

- It is the policy of the Fairfax County Police Department that officers hold the highest regard for the sanctity of human life, dignity and liberty of all individuals. Force is to be used only to the extent it is objectively reasonable to defend oneself or another, to control an individual during an investigative or mental detention, or to lawfully effect an arrest.
- All officers are trained at the Fairfax County Criminal Justice Academy on the appropriate use of departmental issued ECWs which is further enhanced by periodic refresher training through the use of the National Decision-Making Model.
- The ECW is defined as a less-lethal option, meaning it provides for a level of force not designed to cause death or serious injury.
- When possible and practicable, officers should seek to utilize de-escalation strategies to prevent situations from deteriorating to the point where they would need to use force.
- Appropriate reporting, investigation, review, and documentation of any use of ECW

# Electronic Control Weapons - Higher Risk Populations

Officers are trained to seek alternatives to the ECW when encountering higher risk populations:

- Pregnant Women
- Elderly
- Small Children
- Persons with low body-mass index (BMI)
- Obese individuals
- Individuals with known medical conditions

**ECW use on these individuals could increase the risk of death or serious injury**

# Electronic Control Weapons - Smart Use Considerations

- Give a verbal warning before the use of force, when practical
- Give subjects a reasonable opportunity to comply before force is used
- Use the minimum force necessary to accomplish lawful objectives
- Follow “targeting guidelines” when feasible and use 5-second “window of opportunity” to restrain and “control under power”
- Immediately cease any force once a subject has surrendered or is captured

# Questions / Discussion